

# STEPTOE & JOHNSON <sup>LLP</sup>

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**Via HAND DELIVERY**

The Honorable Vernon A. Williams  
Secretary  
Surface Transportation Board  
1925 K Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20423

217573



**Re: STB Ex Parte No. 646 (Sub No. 1) – Simplified Standards for Rail Rate Cases**

Dear Secretary Williams:

I am writing on behalf of the Association of American Railroads in regard to a letter dated September 13, 2006, sent to you in the captioned proceeding by Mr. Nicholas DiMichael, counsel for The National Industrial Transportation League. In his letter, Mr. DiMichael requests the Board "to provide any and all workpapers underlying the Board's decision served July 28, 2006 in the above proceeding," and goes on to specify multiple specific categories of information encompassed in that request.

It is likely that certain information encompassed in Mr. DiMichael's request is subject to protective orders adopted by the Board or other restrictions designed to protect the confidentiality of the materials. In the event that the Board determines that certain of the requested information is not subject to protective orders or other restrictions and decides to make it available to Mr. DiMichael, AAR requests that such information also be made available to the undersigned counsel for AAR.

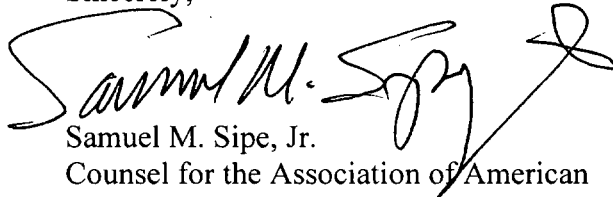
Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

ENTERED  
Office of Proceedings

SEP 19 2006

Part of  
Public Record

Sincerely,

  
Samuel M. Sipe, Jr.  
Counsel for the Association of American  
Railroads

cc: Parties of Record